

To: Ferrell, Mark[Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov]
From: Mark Ferrell
Sent: Tue 2/4/2014 2:00:40 AM
Subject: Fwd: Excerpts from Senator Rockefeller's hearing statement
[ATT00001.txt](#)

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From: "Beckner, Andrew (Rockefeller)"
<Andrew_Beckner@rockefeller.senate.gov>
Date: February 3, 2014 7:00:58 PM EST
Subject: Excerpts from Senator Rockefeller's hearing statement

TO: West Virginia Press
FROM: Andrew Beckner, Deputy Director of Communications, Sen. Jay Rockefeller
RE: Sen. Rockefeller Statement: Environment and Public Works
Hearing on WV chemical spill
DATE: February 3, 2014

Below please find excerpts from Senator Rockefeller's remarks for the record for tomorrow's hearing of the U.S. Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works' Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife entitled "Examination of the Safety and Security of Drinking Water Supplies Following the Central West Virginia Drinking Water Crisis." The hearing begins at 10 a.m.

If you have any questions, feel free to give me a call at 304-347-5504 or 304-654-2973 in West Virginia, or at 202-224-6101 in Washington.

Thanks.

"Industry will resist any new regulations or stronger enforcement measures. It's an isolated incident in West Virginia, they will argue. Agencies in charge of oversight do not need more resources, some will claim. In fact, Republicans have purposely sought to starve certain agencies of funding so they cannot do their job adequately. We continue to pay a price for this cynical strategy."

"Over thirty years, I have heard these complaints all too often from chemical companies, coal operators, railroads – really too many industries to name. We can no longer trade the public's health and welfare for industry profits. As we have seen in West Virginia, when you cannot drink the water, not much else matters. Not much business gets done. The long-term economic damage from this crisis is almost immeasurable and the breach of trust seems irreparable."

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